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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

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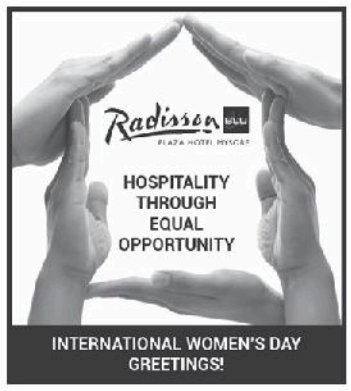


BUDGET

No new taxes; No rise in State sales taxes on petrol, diesel

Bengaluru, Mar. 8 (UNI& Agencies)- Faced with a mammoth financial challenge, Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa, who holds the Finance portfolio, presented the Karnataka Budget for the 2021-22 fiscal this morning at the Legislative Assembly.

His Budget speech — Karnataka Vikasa Patra 2021 — began at 12.05 pm. Yediyurappa presented the eighth Budget in his political career and the third during his present term as the Chief Minister since July 2019. Before presenting the Budget, Yediyurappa visited Sri Raghavendraswamy Mutt at Seshadripuram and offered *pujas*.

As soon as the CM rose to present the Budget, Congress, under the leadership of former CM Siddharamaiah, disrupted the proceedings and staged a walkout and claimed that the Government had no "moral right" to present the Budget.

CM's Budget address

"No taxes, including Karnataka State Sales Tax on Petrol and Diesel, have been increased and the Budget has been formulated in such a way that there will be no increase in the financial burden on the common man," the CM said.

On the occasion of International Women's Day today, the CM announced a slew of measures for women empowerment. At the outset, he announced special women bus pass 'Vanitha Sangathi' with rebate and also special loan up to Rs. 2 crore with 4 percent interest rate to women entrepreneurs of service sectors. The CM announced 6,000 micro enterprises under RDPR to generate employment to 60,000 women; Branding and online market assistance would be provided to such enterprises. Women and Children's Budget will be implemented under Panchayat Raj.

Continuing the women-friendly initiatives, the CM said that Safe City Project to be speeded up and 7,500 CCTV cameras will be installed in Bengaluru. Tech-based e-beat will be introduced during night hours to ensure women's safety.

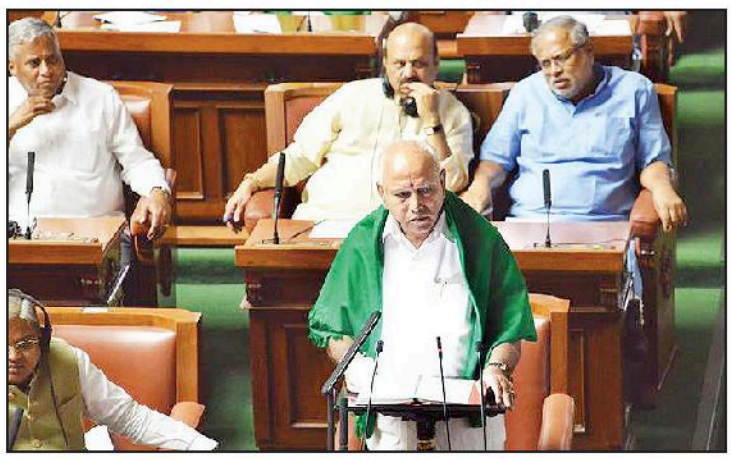
Markets will be provided for products of women entrepreneurs in major cities of the State and unique products of women will be exhibited for a week in the cities. The CM also proposed establishment of e-markets.

"Excellence Centre to help women who are subjected to harassment and abuse; NIMHANS and NLSIU to be roped in for this initiative. The Government will upgrade Anganwadis to Shishu Palana Kendras (crèches) and to help women, such centres will be opened at all district offices," the CM said.

State revenues will not meet last year's Budget targets. Will admit that there is an imbalance in expenditure and revenue, he said. "Tax revenues of both State and Centre are down. As a result, the tax share of States has decreased. GST devolution funds for the year reduced by around Rs. 8,000 crore compared to Budget estimates," he said.

"We handled natural disasters and COVID pandemic efficiently, despite revenue shortage. We managed committed expenditures at the period of crisis without delaying payment of salaries and other expenses. Due to lockdown, Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) has declined. According to estimates, GSDP has dropped 2.6 percent compared to 2019-20 fiscal. Agricultural sector has grown 4 percent. Services and industry sector are down 3 percent and 5 percent," he said.

(See BUDGET on page 9)



Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa, who also holds the Finance portfolio, presenting the Budget-2021 this morning.

What Mysuru has got

- Regional Cancer Centre like Kidwai Hospital in Bengaluru
- Temporary residential facility for construction workers
- Rs. 1 crore for staging Dr. S.L. Bhyrappa's 'Parva' play through Rangayanas
- Integrated theme park at downstream of Kabini Dam under PPP model at a cost of Rs. 50 crore
- Weekend Tourism Circuits to be identified around Bengaluru

Bonanza for Women

- Special women bus pass 'Vanitha Sangathi'
- Loan up to Rs. 2 crore with 4 percent interest
- 6,000 micro enterprises to employ 60,000 women
- Safe City Project to be speeded up for women's safety
- Tech-based e-beat during night hours

Good response for COVID vaccination at Pink Booths in city

A senior citizen receiving jab at the Pink Booth set up exclusively for women at District Hospital on KRS Road on the occasion of International Women's Day today.

Mysuru, Mar. 8 (RK&KS)- Today being International Women's Day, two Pink Vaccination Booths, exclusively for women, were set up at the District Hospital on KRS Road and at Bannimantap Primary Health Centre (PHC) in Hanumanthanagar. Both the booths saw women arriving in large numbers to get themselves vaccinated against COVID-19. The District Hospital alone witnessed nearly 90 women getting vaccinated till 12.30 pm. The booths were decorated with pink balloons and pink banners with the staff too dressed in pink.

District Surgeon Dr. Rajeshwari Devi, who is in-charge of the COVID Vaccination at the District Hospital, said that the response from women to get vaccination was good and added that the Pink Booth at the District Hospital will continue for a week.

A total of 23 Private Hospitals, two Government Hospitals (District Hospital and Trauma Care Centre of MMC&RI), ESI Hospital, Railway Hospital and 24 PHCs including Community Health Centres (CHCs) are undertaking COVID vaccination drives (first and second dose) from today in city while 200 PHCs including CHCs have commenced the drive in the district.

(See VACCINATION on page 9)

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Monday 8th March 2021

Power disruption on Mar. 9

Mysuru, Mar.8- As the Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation (CESC) will be taking up the 4th quarterly maintenance works, power supply will be disrupted on Mar. 9 between 10 am and 5 pm in the following areas:

Jayapura Power Distribution Centre: Jayapura Gram Panchayat (GP) limits, Marballi GP limits, Gopalapura GP limits, Udbur GP limits, Dhanagalli GP limits, Harohalli GP limits and surrounding areas.

Yelwal Power Distribution Centre: Yelwal, Hale-Kamanakoppal, Maidanahalli, Megalapura, Bhadregowdanakoppal, Chikkegowdanakoppal, Hosakote, Sarakatte, Yachegowdanahalli, Dadakanahalli, Ramenahalli, Yadahalli, Kallur, Naganahalli, Gungral Chatra, Chatrada Koppal, Ratnahalli, Veerappana Koppal and surrounding areas.

Vijayanagar Power Distribution Centre: Gokulam 1st and 2nd Stages, Mahadeshwara Layout, Vijayanagar 1st and 2nd Stages, Hinkal, Yadavagiri, Manjunathapura, Mahajana Layout, Vontikoppal, Gokulam 3rd Stage, Jayalakshmipuram, CFTRI, DC's House, Nurse Quarters, Akashavani, ESI Hospital, Hasu-Karu Park, Gokulam Park, Kalidasa Road, Yadavagiri Industrial area, Vijayanagar Water Tank, Adipampa Road, MMC Ladies Hostel, General Thimmaiah Road, Brindavan, Yoganarasimaswamy temple, Oyster By and surrounding areas.

KHB Power Distribution Centre: Vijayanagar 4th Stage, KHB Colony, Hootagalli village, Hootagalli - KRS Road, Aditya Layout, SRS Colony, Koorgalli village, Belawadi village, NHB Colony, Belawadi Industrial area, Basavanapura, Shahi Garments, Hootagalli Industrial area, Koorgalli Industrial area, Grand Maurya Hotel, Reliance, Mass Fernitures, Yashaswini Kalyana Mantap, Souparnika Apartment, Hinkal, SVEI College and surrounding areas, Jattihundi and surrounding areas.

DMG Power Distribution Centre: DMG village, Kamarahalli, Manikyapura, Doddakattehundi, Mariyayyanahundi, Shettinayakanahalli and surrounding villages, according to a press release from CESC.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

SPECIAL INVITEES: *Delhi Police is celebrating International Women's Day in a special way. It invited nine women who delivered babies in PCR vans while being taken to hospitals during the COVID-19 lockdown. Altogether, Police had shifted 997 pregnant women to various hospitals during this period and in nine cases, the deliveries took place in the PCR vans before reaching hospitals. Police had swung into action in helping pregnant women between March 25 and May 30 when all modes of transport were either fully or partially suspended. In one case, a woman was in labour when the Police reached there. Police immediately sought the help of a woman running a nearby tea-stall for help and helped deliver the baby. Deputy Commissioner of Police (PCR) Isha Pandey said, "the staff displayed exemplary conviction and commitment to duty by helping the women deliver their babies in PCR vans though they are untrained for delivery of babies, thus taking the services of PCR to a higher level."* — *Shemin Joy, New Delhi, in Deccan Herald*

NEWS SPARKLERS

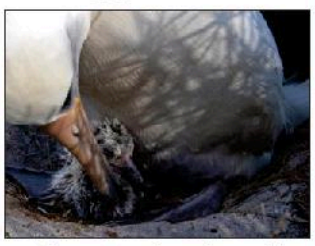
'Sinkholes' all across Croatia after quake

Petrinja: People are living with fear of being swallowed up by Earth after sinkholes appeared following a strong earthquake just over two months ago.

On Dec. 29, 2020, Croatia recorded its strongest earthquake ever measuring 6.4 points on the Richter scale. The quake directly affected 1,16,000 people, mainly in the cities of Petrinja, Sisak, and Glina, and the rural areas around them. Now, over two months since the earthquake, people in the affected area are even more worried about the sinkholes that keep appearing.

According to reports, the first sinkhole appeared two days before the quake, but 10 days later, there were 15 sinkholes in a village, as well as another 15 in the surrounding area. Tomo Medved, the head of the task force said that the number of sinkholes in the Kukuruzari Municipality had increased from 40 last week to more than 70.

World's oldest bird hatches egg at 70



Midway Atoll: The oldest known bird in the world has hatched a chick at the age of 70.

Wisdom, the albatross welcomed her new baby on 1 February on the Midway Atoll in the North Pacific. Biologists on the islands near Hawaii first noticed the egg pipping on Jan. 29 and announced the news on Friday.

Wisdom was banded by experts in 1956, outliving the person that classified her all those years ago, according to the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

"At least 70-years-old, we believe Wisdom has had other mates. Although albatross mate for life, they may find new partners if necessary, for example if they outlive their first mate," said USFWS biologist Dr Beth Flint. Wisdom's current mate is a male albatross called Akeakami, who she has been hatching chicks with since 2012.

HEALTH CAPSULE

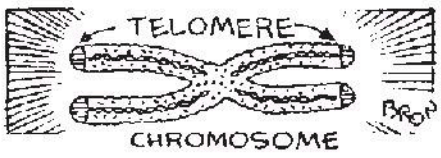
Best Drinks for kids

The best drinks are water and milk. The best drinks for children are water and milk (including non-dairy milk). Milk provides calcium and vitamin D to build strong bones. Ice cream is ok occasionally, but it should not be offered every day. Whole fruit is preferable as juice is a concentrated source of sugar and low in fibre. It is best to serve juice with a meal, as juice is more likely to cause cavities when served between meals.

By Syeda Shifain Fathima - Department of Dietetics & Nutrition

COLUMBIA ASIA
COLUMBIA ASIA HOSPITAL - MYSORE

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*



A Telomere is a 'cap' at either end of chromosome. It protects the DNA within the chromosome. Telomeres have been shown to be directly connected to cellular aging, as they shorten with wear over time. When a Telomere wears out, it contributes to the aging process. Inactive Telomeres are linked to illness and impending death.

COVID-19 UPDATE - MYSURU

DATES	MAR. 6	MAR. 7
Day's Positive Cases	9	11
Total Positive Cases	54,191	54,202
Day's Discharges	18	24
Total Discharges	53,004	53,028
Day's Deaths	0	0
Total Deaths	1,034	1,034
Total Active Cases	153	140

NOTE: Figures as per Government Media Bulletin

Selected for Award

Mysuru, Mar. 8 (SSV)- **Dr. Pushpa Krishna,** District AYUSH Officer, Mandya, has been selected for State-level 'Smt. Yashodaramma Dasappa' Award instituted by Karnataka Rajya Vokkaligara Vikasa Vedike, Mysuru, in recognition of her services in the field of Medicine. The award will be presented to her at the 10th anniversary function of the Vedike to be held at Ravindra Kalakshethra in Bengaluru on Mar. 21 at 9 am.

Dr. Pushpa belongs to Mysuru and had secured first rank in B.A.M.S Medical Degree and a gold medal. She started her career from Ganaganuru Taluk AYUSH Hospital in Chamarajanagar and is now working at Mandya.

REALLY...?

- ***Bananas have a natural antacid effect in the body, so if you suffer from heart-burn, try eating a banana for soothing relief.***
- ***A strawberry isn't an actual berry, but a banana is!***
- ***Not all oranges are in fact orange.***
- ***Apples give you more energy than coffee.***
- ***Each pineapple plant only produces one pineapple per year.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Son: *Happy news.*
Father: *What is it?*
Son: *You promised me Rs. 1,000 if I pass in all subjects.*
Father: *Yes.*
Son: *Your money is not lost dad. Happy??!!*

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 72.95
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 100.93
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 19.86
1 Euro	= Rs. 86.91

VOICE OF THE READER

COVID-19 vaccination

A pleasant and hassle-free experience at the Hospital

Sir,

This is to register, record and acknowledge the excellent service rendered by the staff of JSS Hospital, M.G. Road, Mysuru. My wife and I got jabbed against COVID-19 at the JSS Hospital this morning (5.3.2021). The Hospital experience was pleasant and hassle-free.

The process is organised in stages: Getting our token numbers by showing the original Aadhaar card, making payment, getting our Blood Pressure checked, having our IDs registered and getting vaccinated

At each stage, we were requested to sit in different waiting rooms which were spic-and-span, with chairs placed keeping 'social distancing' in mind. After the vaccination, we were asked to take rest in another waiting room for 30 minutes. As we rested, two doctors came and inquired about our health history.

Everything had been very well-organised. At every stage, polite staff guided us and there was absolutely no scope for any confusion. Besides, there were sign boards to guide us through. The service was excellent and memorable.

PS: Please carry an alternative photo ID (PAN or Driving Licence) in original along with Aadhaar. In our case, there was some problem while registering Aadhaar and we were asked for an alternative ID. Luckily, we had PAN card handy.

— R. Sundara Murthy
on e-mail
Siddartha Layout
5.3.2021

Archery workshop for lady doctors held

Noted music critic Dr. Rama V. Bennur inaugurating the Archery Workshop for lady doctors organised as part of World Women's Heart Day by Cardiological Society of India, Mysore Chapter at Seervi Samaj premises on KRS Road yesterday. The workshop, held in association with Tiger Adventure Foundation and Women in Cardiology For a Cause for lady doctors to beat stress, was attended by about 22 lady doctors.

A group photo of lady doctors and two children who participated in the Archery Workshop.

State Govt. approaches

Apex Court against HC order on Mysore Royal family land

New Delhi, Mar. 8- The Karnataka Government has moved the Supreme Court questioning the Karnataka High Court (HC) judgement declaring ownership of 1,561.31 acres of land at Mysuru in favour of Mysore Royal family.

The Government contended that the HC order went against the Accession Treaty of 1950, signed between the Maharaja of Mysore and Dominion of India on Jan.23, 1950 and an earlier British Government decision taken in 1881-83 declaring the land as B-Kharab meant for public purpose.

In its Special Leave Petition (SLP), the State Government questioned the validity of Karnataka HC's Dec.15,2020 order, saying it overlooked the fact that questions on ownership and whether the land in question (1,561.31 acres) is B-Kharab or not, need to be answered independently.

The Karnataka Government also contended that the lands in Kurubarahalli village were classified as B-Kharab land by the British Government in a survey carried out between 1881 and 1883. The same classification was reconfirmed by another survey conducted in 1921, the Government maintained.

A Bench of Justices U.U. Lalit and K.M. Joseph, which took up the matter on Mar.5, gave senior advocate Harish Salve, appearing for the Karnataka Government, three weeks' time to place on record all documents regarding the 1950 agreement entered into between the Government of India and Maharaja of Mysore in respect of properties and privy purse. The SC later posted the matter for consideration on Apr. 12.

Obituary

Sarvamangala

Mysuru, Mar. 8- Sarvamangala (81), wife of Progressive Thinker P. Mallesh and a resident of Ramakrishnanagar, passed away this morning in city.

She leaves behind her husband, one son, three daughters and a host of relatives and friends. Last rites were performed at Veerashaiva Burial Grounds in Lalithadripura today, according to family sources.

Woman goes missing from city

Manjula

Mysuru, Mar. 8 (KS)- A 34-year-old woman, who left her house on Feb. 24 at about 5 pm, has since gone missing. The missing woman is Manjula, wife of Prabhuswamy and a resident of Janata Nagar in city. She is 5.2 ft. tall, normal built, oily red complexioned, has a mole near the right side of her neck, speaks Kannada and was wearing a green churidhar at the time of going missing.

Those having any information about her may contact Saraswathipuram Police Station on Ph: 0821-2418123/323 or call Police Control Room on Ph: 0821-2418339.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Last date extended

The District Institute for Education and Training (DIET), Vasanth Mahal in city, which had invited online applications for admission to Sixth standard in Adarsha Vidyalayas, has extended the last date for submission of applications to Mar. 17. Students / parents can submit their applications online through website: www.schooleducation.kar.nic.in or www.vidyavahini.karnataka.gov.in. For details, contact Mob: 99727-13465.

Beautician course

Mysuru Hair and Beauty Association, affiliated to AIHBA is celebrating women-hood by offering free beautician course to economically backward women in the age group of 18-40 years. After the three-month course, which is aimed to empower women making them financially independent, participants will also be provided job assistance and internship. Interested may contact Association Office on Mob: 99860-32650, according to a press release form Association President Uma Jadav.

Free SSLC coaching class

Safai Karmachari Development Corporation is conducting free SSLC coaching class at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Samudaya Bhavan, behind Sterling Theatre, Vishweshwaranagar in city from Mar. 20, which will be held on every Saturdays and Sundays from 5 pm to 7 pm. Nominal registration fee of Rs. 10 has to be paid. Interested candidates are requested to register their names before Mar. 15. [Mob: 94497-61197 or 86180-57348].

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM

Maximum	:	124.80 feet
Today	:	108.62 feet
Yesterday	:	108.72 feet
Inflow	:	279 cusecs
Outflow	:	583 cusecs

KABINI DAM

Maximum	:	2,284.00 feet
Today	:	2,268.21 feet
Inflow	:	124 cusecs
Outflow	:	1,060 cusecs

HARANGI DAM

Maximum	:	2,859.00 feet
Today	:	2,823.34 feet
Inflow	:	59 cusecs
Outflow	:	45 cusecs

MENACING TIGER IN SOUTH KODAGU

8-year-old boy falls prey; third death in 17 days

Big cat pounces on granddad-grandson duo inside coffee estate at Bellur-Hysodlur

Ponnampet, Mar. 8 (Darshan& BCT)- The tiger on the prowl in parts of South Kodagu has taken its third victim this morning. The feline mauled eight-year-old Rangaswamy at Bellur-Hysodlur village, the epicentre of the menace. On Feb. 20 and 21, the tiger had killed 18-year-old Ayyappa and 60-year-old Chinni.

Today's attack took place early in the morning when Rangaswamy and his grandfather 52-year-old Kencha were walking inside a coffee estate. Reports from the attack scene say that the tiger suddenly pounced on Rangaswamy and hit the boy's face with its paw. Rangaswamy collapsed and died within moments.

Seeing the menacing tiger, Kencha tried to shoo away the animal but the big cat attacked him too. Hearing Kencha screaming for help, other labourers rushed to the spot. They shifted Kencha to Gonikoppal Primary Health Centre and from there he has been shifted to Mysuru for better treatment.

The tiger has taken the lives of three human beings and 12 cattle heads in 17 days in and around Bellur, T. Shettigeri, Thavalageri, Srimangala, Mathoor, Beeruga, Badagarakeri and surrounding areas. The latest attack occurred at a place that is a few furlongs from the camps set up by the Forest Department to capture the big cat. Over 150 personnel, 30 officers and sharp-shooters are involved in the operation.

Today in the wee hours — about 2.30 am — the tiger attacked a cow owned by Kalimada Sunitha.

Villagers resort to road blocks in protest; Tahsildar clamps Section 144

A file photo of the menacing tiger near a cow's carcass caught by a camera trap in Bellur village on Feb. 24.

The tiger entered the cow shed and made the killing. The feline was unable to carry away the carcass as the cow shed had walls and the gate was closed.

Later, the tiger attacked the cow owned by Kalimada Naveen a few metres away from Sunitha's house. Fortunately, Naveen woke up to the sound and the tiger released the cow from its grip hearing shouts from the family.

Villagers enraged

Enraged by the tiger killing, hundreds of villagers mobbed the Forest Department officers today and sought an explanation from them as to why they could not capture or shoot the tiger even after 17 days of operation.

They alleged that the Department's operation was just an eye-wash as people and cattle heads continue to fall prey to the big cat despite tall claims by the Department. The Department has brought tamed elephants just to show off while nothing is being done to capture or kill the big cat.

The villagers resorted to road blocks and prevented the vehicles of the Forest Department and Police to enter Bellur. They demanded the presence of Kodagu MLAs and MP at the spot and alleged that despite the tiger menace since the last two months, no elected representative or the Forest Minister has bothered to visit the place.

Sensing the mood of the irate villagers, Virajpet Tahsildar has imposed Section 144 in the entire Hudikeri hobli on Mar. 8 and Mar. 9. This is to prevent gathering of more than five persons at a particular place. Villagers said that they will not bow to the pressure tactics by the authorities and resorted to road blocks.

Twist in sex CD scandal: Activist wants to withdraw plaint against Ramesh Jarkiholi

Bengaluru, Mar 8 (UNI)- Social activist Dinesh Kallahalli yesterday said that he would withdraw the Police complaint filed against former Minister Ramesh Jarkiholi.

Dinesh Kallahalli

An advocate for activist Dinesh Kallahalli approached Cubbon Park Police with a signed letter requesting withdrawal of the complaint filed against Jarkiholi on Mar. 2. "Dinesh Kallahalli has given a letter seeking to withdraw the complaint. I have given the letter to the Police and the Police have said the complainant must come to seek withdrawal and explain since this is a serious case. Dinesh Kallahalli will appear before the Police to explain his position," advocate S.K. Patil said.

Jarkiholi resigned as Water Resources Minister on Mar. 3 after video clips allegedly featuring him and a woman were aired on TV channels and social media. Police are yet to register an FIR as the woman could not be traced and no one gave a statement on her behalf other than Kallahalli, who has said he does not know her or members of her family and that he was given the recordings and information by an acquaintance.

Meanwhile, BJP MLA Balachandra Jarkiholi, brother of Ramesh Jarkiholi has demanded a CBI probe and told the reporters that the video allegedly featuring his brother and a woman was doctored.

He alleged that four teams are involved in the conspiracy to defame Ramesh and forced him to step down as Minister ahead of Assembly elections in five States.

"The plan was also to embarrass the BJP ahead of elections in five States, contending that the videos were fake. I believe that the visuals in the CD are fake. It should be tested to verify its authenticity," he said.

"Ten Ministers of the Government and 25 MLAs who met me have urged me to press for a CBI enquiry. I will meet him in the evening, urging him to come out and speak to the media. He should file a complaint against the incident. If he does not, I will file a complaint on his behalf," Balachandra said.

POLICY POLITICS & PEOPLE

By Dr. R. Balasubramaniam

Working together for a HEALTHY India

An elderly person met me recently and wanted to know some details about the ongoing COVID vaccination programme. He was keen on understanding whether it would be better to get the shot at the Government Hospital or at a Private Hospital nearby. While the Government offered fully free services including the vaccine, people have to pay a nominal amount of Rs. 250 to Private Hospitals as a service fee.

This person was hesitant to go to a Government Hospital while he seemed to be comfortable taking the vaccination in the Private Hospital, despite my explaining to him that the location by itself would not be a major factor as the vaccine is supplied by the Government. It seemed clear that this person had more faith in a Private Hospital while being unsure of the hygiene, quality of personnel, or the waiting time in a Government Hospital.

For most of us visiting a Hospital is indeed a stressful experience. One needs to bear in mind the quality of care, the competence and experience of the attending Physician, the waiting times, the efficacy of medicines distributed and our inherent trust in the health system that is delivering the care. While it is easy to appreciate that we are the bearers of the cost of care in the private system, one tends to believe that public systems offer 'free-care.' This belief of 'free-care' is fundamentally flawed and is usually driven by our appreciation of only the 'out-of-pocket' expenses that we may actually incur or not incur when we seek care in public facilities.

Deeper thought will reveal how every citizen pays for health care in public facilities in advance itself. It is a pre-payment to the system that some of us may never really use but offered to us as a matter of our right as a citizen. Since this is never really perceived by many of us, we tend to not only not use the facility, but also let the public providers off the hook and do not think of demanding accountability from them.

Going back to the question of whether the private or the public sector is better for one to avail of health care facilities, we will have to ask ourselves why only 34 percent of Indians use public facilities whereas the vast majority of us visit the private providers. Is it driven by mere choice alone or by the quality of care that one associates with payment. Are our public facilities comparable in terms of personnel, competence and treatment outcomes? With increasing privatisation on the cards and the offer of State Insurance for availing health care in Private facilities, one needs to take an objective and critical look at this. We must also bear in mind that our taxation revenues are contributing more than Rs. 2 lakh crores towards the allocations made in this year's Union budget towards providing health care for us.

Taking an unbiased view will reveal that both the private and public facilities have their own pros and cons. The stereotypical view that all Government Hospitals deliver less than the required quality of care while Private facilities deliver quality care also needs an objective re-assessment. One needs to keep in mind that Private Hospitals with a mere 20 percent of the total health infrastructure in the country caters to 66 percent of the population. Expecting them to deliver quality consistently with transparent declaration of health outcomes in such situations may be a tough ask. All Government-run institutions hire and appoint only qualified personnel unlike the private sector where several small nursing homes are run with nursing and laboratory personnel not having the required qualifications. Very few Private Hospitals have a rational and well-defined pricing policy that is transparently shared with the patients availing of their services. Most patients are not aware of their rights and very few of them demand to know all this. This being said, several public health facilities are stretched and resource limitation is a real constraint, especially at the primary health care level. Things are now improving with the introduction of Community Health and Wellness Centres in the public health system and one can surely hope to see its impact in a few years from now.

Traditionally, Government is the dominant and effective responder to all public health challenges. The ongoing COVID crisis has clearly demonstrated how effectively the public health facilities functioned. It goes to the credit of our policy planners and the providers across all levels of the system that we are still able to contain the crisis across the nation. This has also been the time when private providers responded to the demand of the Government and joined hands in doing their bit. The Government not only expanded its own capability of providing care, but also ensured timely reimbursement at pre-fixed rates to the Private Hospitals that provided COVID treatment. The ongoing vaccination programme being rolled out through the Private Hospitals stands testimony to this evolving partnership.

This is the ideal time for each of us to realise that what truly matters is that every Indian citizen receives the best possible care that one can hope for under the current circumstances. While market forces will determine how many of them will use private facilities, the Government needs to also step up in reducing the trust deficit in the rest who seek public facilities. Defining quality of care driven by treatment outcomes, ensuring common regulations to both private and public sector, ensuring proper prescription audits, and working with the strengths of each other would be the best way to build this much-needed partnership. It is in the interest of the citizens and the nation that the public and private sector comes together and transcends the traditional roles that each has been playing, and join hands in a mutually beneficial partnership with the collective mandate of ensuring Universal health coverage to the 1.3 billion people of the country.

[Dr. R. Balasubramaniam, Founder of Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement and GRAAM, is a public policy advocate and development activist. He is a Visiting Professor at Cornell University and IIT-Delhi. He can be reached at: email@rbalu.com]

'Focus on education to become self-reliant'

Regional Commissioner G.C. Prakash advises women

Mysuru, Mar. 8 (MTY&SSV)- Regional Commissioner G.C. Prakash has called upon women to not only get good education but also to live independently by concentrating towards becoming self-employed. He was speaking after distributing autorickshaws to two women beneficiaries at a function organised by Yuva Chintana Foundation, Bengaluru, in association with the Department of Women and Child Development at the Office of Regional Commissioner in city on Friday.

Prakash said, parents must educate their girl children as knowledge was priceless and none can snatch it. Of late, women were seen in all fields. It was happy to note that Bengaluru-based organisation has been conducting women empowerment programmes and two women from Mysuru have been gifted the three-wheelers to become self-reliant.

K. Padma, Deputy Director, Department of Women and Child Development, said women who wish to become self-employed, may submit application seeking training in tailoring or beautician courses. It was high time they thought of other professions too. Already, 30 women from Mysuru's State Home had been appointed as Anganwadi workers. Now, three women from State Home have come forward to undergo training in driving organised by Yuva Chintana.

Former MLA N.L. Narendra Babu said, women can take responsibility if she was educated. They have seen women driving autorickshaws in cities. The Government must consider issuing Driving Licence to PU-passed youths.

Regional Commissioner G.C. Prakash handing over the keys of autorickshaws to women beneficiaries at his office premises in city on Friday as ex-MLA N.L. Narendra Babu, Women and Child Development Deputy Director K. Padma and others look on.

Anupama Gowda, Head, Yuva Chintana Foundation, said thousands of families suffered due to country-wide lockdown last year, and many have lost jobs. The condition of single parent was even worst. In view of this, the Foundation plans to identify women in difficulties and impart training in driving autorickshaws, goods autorickshaw and two-wheelers. This will help them to deliver food ordered online.

Bhagyalakshmi was given passenger autorickshaw and Vijayalakshmi received the goods auto under the CSR funds of 'Bajaj Auto.' Transport Officer S.G. Vasanthkumar, Bajaj Regional Manager Indrajit and advocate Umesh were present.

Leading from the front

International Women's Day Today

Women, considered to be the most divine creations on earth, are an epitome of patience, resilience, tolerance and love. They provide the element of balance in one's life. They are also strong and smart with action, emotion and devotion. Women have emerged from the shadows of men and have been carving a place for themselves in all spheres of life. The theme of International Women's Day 2021 is: **'Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world.'**

With an overall knowledge from interior households to the peripheral world, modern women are a symbol of power and energy. For the International Women's Day 2021, *Star of Mysore* caught up with some of the most inspiring female leaders from Mysuru in the field of administration, politics, science, education and Police force, who have emerged as role models.

'Your work speaks for you'

Rohini Sindhuri, Deputy Commissioner, Mysuru

A 2009 batch IAS officer of Karnataka cadre, Rohini Sindhuri has worked in various departments in her career. She took over as Mysuru Deputy Commissioner (DC) on Sept. 29, 2020. This gutsy officer has emerged as a beacon of light and has been an inspiration for many women. Hailing from Andhra Pradesh, she did her graduation in Chemical Engineering and later took up Civil Services.

By Shadan Muneer

Star of Mysore (SOM): Please reflect on your inspiring journey as a woman bureaucrat?

Rohini Sindhuri: Bureaucracy is based on merit. After clearing Civil Service examinations, a lot of options opened up for me. Generally there is a perception that a bureaucrat has to look a certain way and not all can fit the bill. But every job comes with its own set of challenges. If you want to take charge of things, you have to be energetic and motivated. There have not been many obstacles except for the fact that women officers are not taken seriously. But over time, your work speaks.

SOM: Was it difficult for you to break the glass ceiling?

Rohini Sindhuri: This decade has been fortunate. Our mothers and grandmothers have fought tougher battles. I do agree that the representation of women is less. Be it in politics, bureaucracy or any other sector but we are in largely better times now. I wouldn't say it was difficult for me to make it because like I said earlier merit has no gender. Ultimately bureaucracy is about you executing a job and how well you perform.

SOM: What are the pros and cons of being a woman boss?

Rohini Sindhuri: I think women are better administrators. I have seen is that women have a better overall perspective of an issue because we are a more rounded kind of personality as we manage home and work well and know multi-tasking. As administrators, we have this advantage but the flip side is that being at the helm of administrative affairs you will not be able to devote enough time to your family and that pricks you.

SOM: Any advice for youngsters who want to take up Civil Services?

Rohini Sindhuri: It is not only about a particular field. I feel it's time that everyone must aspire to have education and aspire to work. My advice to youngsters is to invest in themselves in terms of upgrading skills and try to give the best and not get belittled by situations or people.

SOM: What is women empowerment for you?

Rohini Sindhuri: Freedom of choice. You need to have the liberty to choose but unfortunately in some patriarchal societies, others make decisions for you. I think if you reach a certain age and you are educated enough, you must be able to make your own choices and also be aware of its consequences.

SOM: Your take on Women's Day.

Rohini Sindhuri: Women's Day is essential an expression of the idea of sisterhood and what struggles we have had and how long our journeys have been. Until we have a fair and equitable society this day is relevant.

'Food and nutrition is our forte'

Dr. Annapurna Singh, Director, CSIR-CFTRI

Dr. Annapurna Singh is an accomplished food technologist and active researcher who took over as the first lady Director of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research - Central Food Technological Research Institute (CSIR-CFTRI) in January 2021. After passing out from CFTRI with M.Sc, she worked with Kissan Products Limited in Bengaluru for a short period and returned to CFTRI and climbed up to the position of Chief Scientist and head of Protein Chemistry and Technology Department before moving to the position of Director.

SOM: You are the first woman to hold this prestigious position. How does it feel?

Dr. Annapurna: I have worked in CFTRI for three decades and this has been like a home. This Institute holds a respectable place in Mysuru and has had many visionary leaders and directors. I feel humbled and blessed to be carrying on the legacy and will do justice to my position.

SOM: Your message for women for a career in Food Science and Technology

Dr. Annapurna: Food and nutrition have always been a forte for women world over, especially in India. Even before Food Science and Technology was recognised as a profession, we have imbibed a lot of cooking abilities, nutritional knowledge and food processing technologies from our grandmothers and mothers so with the natural skills ingrained in us, I feel that women have a great future. Men are also opting for it due to the scope.

SOM: How will you encourage youngsters to explore this field?

Dr. Annapurna: It is a sought-after field and the scope is growing. More and more people are depending on food to prevent chronic and lifestyle diseases and many youngsters are now realising that diet and disease are intricately connected.

SOM: Malnutrition among women and children is still rampant. Have any steps been taken to mitigate this?

Dr. Annapurna: Since inception in 1950, one of the major mandates of CFTRI has been to treat malnutrition. This institute has been developing a lot of supplementary foods. Some of our products have also been used in mid-day meal programmes. We are trying to connect with State Governments and collaborate with many institutions so that we can make a difference through our foods.

SOM: Do you face any challenges in your job being a woman?

Dr. Annapurna: My colleagues have been more than helpful and I have never felt any gender bias at any time. My family rallied around me and my senior colleagues understood my compulsions.

SOM: What are your views on Women's Day?

Dr. Annapurna: For me every day has to be a Woman's Day. Women actually do unpaid jobs and make a happy home without thinking about their own comforts. It's nice that at least once a year we do take note of their contributions.

'Women can succeed everywhere'

Rukmini Madegowda, Mayor, Mysuru City

Newly elected Mayor of Mysuru, Rukmini Madegowda of JD(S) has been into social service since 13 years. Hailing from Doranahalli in Mandya, Rukmini Madegowda has been active in politics and was earlier appointed as the Works Committee Chairperson.

SOM: Did you have to face any obstacles to reach this coveted position?

Rukmini Madegowda: My journey as a Corporator began in 2007 and I have been active since then. Initially I did face some hardships but that's part of every job. I learnt how to overcome the challenges. My husband has been a great support.

SOM: How do you propose to make Mysuru city safer for women?

Rukmini Madegowda: For now I would want to build rest rooms for Pourakarmikas of all 65 Wards. Safety wise, street-lighting also plays a major role.

SOM: Mysuru city is known to be one of the cleanest cities. What are your plans to bring back Mysuru to its number 1 spot?

Rukmini Madegowda: We will be giving utmost importance to Swachh Survekshan. Awareness programmes have been conducted in the past and we will continue to educate citizens on cleanliness and hygiene. With the support of all 65 Corporators, I am sure we will be able to do a good job.

SOM: What do you think of the present status of women in politics?

Rukmini Madegowda: It feels nice that women are being successful in every field and not just in politics. Women are being recognised in the mainstream. It shows that woman can venture into any field and be successful.

SOM: How do you balance work and family?

Rukmini Madegowda: It is not all that difficult. My job is my passion and I enjoy what I am doing so nothing seems difficult. I come from a joint family who are supportive which is a huge advantage.

'We have better logical reasoning'

Dr. Suman D. Pennekar, Dy. Director, Karnataka Police Academy

Dr. Suman D. Pennekar is a 2013 batch IPS officer who has been serving as the Deputy Director of Karnataka Police Academy. With her roots in Belagavi, she is an Ayurvedic Doctor who later joined Civil Services. She has earlier served as Assistant Superintendent of Police in Karkala, Superintendent of Police, Lokayukta Bengaluru and later as Kodagu SP.

SOM: What has been your motivating factor?

Suman Pennekar: My father has been my biggest motivator. His inspiring words made me take up Civil Services. Since childhood he would make me read newspapers and watch news on television. He would tell me about great personalities. It is he who got me a syllabus copy of Civil Services while I was still doing my graduation.

SOM: Do you feel any gender disparity in your job?

Suman Pennekar: I haven't experienced gender bias at my level except in posting sometimes. Women have succeeded in every field and people have accepted this fact which is a progressive sign but I feel in some patriarchal societies, gender disparity still exists.

SOM: Is this job more challenging for a lady than for a man?

Suman Pennekar: No, we do the same amount of work as men do and we also undergo the same training. In fact women have a better logical reasoning and emotional quotient. We go into the depth and think in various perspectives.

SOM: What message would you want to give women who want to join Police Force?

Suman Pennekar: There is a lot of scope for women in Policing and there is 25 percent reservation for women. We have a lot of women officers who have made a difference in the Force especially in SJPU (Special Juvenile Police Units) wherein they go and rescue women and children and also take care of the issues pertaining to child marriages and harassments at home. The feeling of wearing *Khaki* and the stars is really different.

SOM: According to you what is women empowerment?

Suman Pennekar: For me, it has to come naturally. Empowerment must be within you. I feel even a home-maker is as empowered as me and what I am today. Every woman is special and is empowered in different roles.

'It is important to be educated'

Deena Uthappa, Vice-Principal, Police Public School

Deena Uthappa, Vice-Principal at Police Public School, has done her graduation in English Literature after completing B.Ed. She is also a national basketball player who hails from Kodagu. She belongs to Chendrimada (Chemira) family. Deena joined Police Public School as a teacher before she was promoted as Vice-Principal. She has over 12 years experience being associated with Police Public School in Jalapuri which was started mainly to give quality education to the children of Policemen.

SOM: What inspired you to take up teaching?

Deena Uthappa: I was always passionate about teaching as I wanted to make a difference and reach out to children and mould them in a positive way. I feel nowadays children are lacking moral values and the human connectivity has gone away maybe because of the advancement of technology. Here at Police Public School, our aim is to cater quality education and help the children of Police personnel.

SOM: What advice would you like to give young girls of today?

Deena Uthappa: It is important to be educated as it gives you an opportunity to stand on one's own two feet and keep moving ahead so that you understand how the world is and how things work. They also need to be bold and confident.

SOM: What are the advantages of being lady teacher?

Deena Uthappa: Women are more patient compared to men. They have the ability to deal with stress in a better way and only a woman can understand the emotional part of a child and other qualities. They can also make girl students feel more comfortable.

SOM: Women play multiple roles in their lives which role do you enjoy playing the most?

Deena Uthappa: Women take up the responsibility of family and they are capable of playing every role to perfection. Yes women do play multiple roles in their daily lives be it as wife, mother, daughter, sister, administrator and so on. I personally enjoy every role that I play in my life.

I'm here to protect KRS

Will not allow illegal mining in Mandya, says MP Sumalatha Ambarish

I am here to protect Krishna Raja Sagar (KRS) Dam, the lifeline of several districts in the State. As promised to Mandya voters during my election campaign, I will not allow illegal quarrying that will endanger the century-old Dam which has been constructed by rulers of Mysore." This is what Sumalatha Ambarish, Lok Sabha Member from Mandya and wife of noted actor-cum-politician, late M.H. Ambarish, told *Star of Mysore*. Recently in the Lok Sabha, she raised the issue of illegal mining and stone quarrying in the vicinity of KRS. In a free-wheeling chat with *Star of Mysore,* the MP shared her experience in the Lok Sabha, about blueprint for Mandya development, pursuing film career and marriage of her son. *Excerpts*. —Ed

By Shyam Sundar Vattam

Star of Mysore (SOM): How has been your journey as Mandya MP since last two years?

Sumalatha: It has been a learning phase of life and I have learnt a lot. Definitely, I have to face a lot of challenges. To overcome this, I had to become stronger and be more patient.

SOM: I think you had absolutely no idea how Lok Sabha (LS) functions. How was your experience to be in the temple of democracy?

Sumalatha: I had little idea about how the Lok Sabha functions because Ambarish was a three-time MP and I have been a part of his journey, though not a big part. One has to be open to learn new things. It is very interesting. You will get to hear brilliant speeches and that has been an interesting sight to watch. When I get an opportunity to speak, what a privilege it is to be able to speak in a House where 543 MPs are elected among 130 crore people and the whole of India might be watching you. That's a great feeling.

SOM: You entered LS with lots of expectations. Are you optimistic of getting them realised?

Sumalatha: I think it's not expectations; I would say if I had a lot of hopes I could do a lot for my Constituency. Yes, of course, one learns that there are a lot of limitations as an MP. Your scope is not wide as others may perceive it to be. Some of your questions, which you asked are actually not under the purview of what an MP is within his or her power to do. But people still think or expect that just because you've been elected as an MP you can pull off everything. It doesn't work like that as there's a State Government which has the whole machinery behind it, and of course, there's the Central Government which will make laws.

Our job as an MP is limited to representing and highlighting the problems of various Constituencies and not just limited to our Constituency. As far as my Constituency is concerned, I would say, I have been successful in highlighting farmers problems, water problems and mining issues. So, yes, there's been a certain amount of success and there's still a lot to be done.

SOM: There is a popular perception that Karnataka MPs do not speak. Is it due to lack of opportunity or afraid of talking against their Government?

Sumalatha: I think people do not understand the way the Lok Sabha functions. It is not easy to get an opportunity (to speak). Sometimes, your questions or your Zero Hour debate participation is very, very dependent on a kind of lottery system, a computerised system. If your name gets picked up then you get an opportunity to speak. You can't just stand up and start speaking but you have to keep trying. So I don't know about others why they're not speaking but definitely I would say this is one of the main reasons. I'm lucky I got a few opportunities to speak.

SOM: Ten-lane Express Highway work is going on between Mysuru and Bengaluru. Is it going to change the fortune of Mandya district?

Sumalatha: The ten-lane Express Highway is a prestigious project. There might be certain benefits which come in the way for Mandya because the properties around any Highway projects or any road improvements always get appreciated. Other than that I think it's not going to change the fortune of Mandya overnight but will definitely improve Mandya's prospects as 58-km stretch of the project is passing through Mandya. Farmers have given up their lands for this project which is mainly for the commuters between Bengaluru and Mysuru. So I think it will benefit Mysuru more than Mandya as far as I see. But I'm hopeful that even Mandya will get to see improvements because of this project.

SOM: The perennial problem of Mandya has been non-equal distribution of water for irrigation. What are your plans to address it?

Sumalatha: I think I've already addressed this question as to what comes under a MP's scope. When you have questions like this you should be really putting these questions to Water Resources Department of the State Government. Our role would be to represent and present these problems to authorities concerned. And I have been doing that non-stop.

SOM: Sugar Mills of Mandya are sick. How are you going to revive them?

Sumalatha: There are only two sugar factories in Mandya district and not more like some districts in Karnataka. One is Pandavapura sugar factory and the other is MySugar. From the day I assumed office, this is what my fight mainly has been and this is what I had promised farmers during my campaign. We have succeeded in opening of Pandavapura sugar factory. As far as MySugar is concerned, it is an ongoing battle and I have not given up. I'm constantly in touch with the CM and the Minister concerned. Now, I think there's been a change of Sugar Minister so again I have to renew my fight. There have been local issues and some people are trying to put obstacles in the way. But I think when your path is right, what you're going to do is for the benefit of the common man and the farmers of my district, then nothing deters me.

SOM: People wish their MP should have a house in Mandya and stay there. Are you thinking in this direction?

Sumalatha: Yes, I have taken a house for rent in Mandya, and I do plan to make my own house. Let's see. I've been looking for a land and space to build my own house. Hopefully I'll do it soon. But meanwhile I've been in Mandya, touring all taluks. So, it doesn't matter where I'm actually staying as long as I'm in touch with my people. For example, if people from K.R. Nagar have to meet me it's not possible for them to come all the way to Mandya. I think it is better to go to the people, listen to their problems and try to be there for them as much as possible. That's what I'm doing.

SOM: Already, you have hogged limelight by highlighting problems of illegal mining in Mandya district. Are you not scared of local mafia?

Sumalatha: I have been highlighting the problems of illegal mining in Mandya because that's another promise that I had made to the people. I think my fight shall go on. I'm not going to be scared of anybody because I'm fighting corruption here, fighting illegal activities and fighting for the safety of KRS dam which is not just for Mandya. People should understand that KRS has been supporting many districts by providing water for drinking and irrigation.

Illegal mining or blasting within the vicinity of KRS can lead to a disaster of huge proportions. My fight shall go on since my main intention is to fight this illegal mining and also prevent people from getting away without paying a royalty and causing hundreds of crores of loss to the State exchequer. This needs to be curbed because we need development money for the district. In this challenging time of pandemic, MP Local Area Development Funds have been suspended for two years. Hence we depend on the District Mining Fund. So I'm going to fight for that and see to it that the money comes into the State Treasury.

We have so many Government School buildings falling apart. We need funds to upgrade Schools and many roads which are in bad shape. From where will we get money if everybody is looting the Government through corrupt practices?

SOM: When are you getting your son Abhishek married?

Sumalatha: Well, my son is just one film old and he's started his next movie. I think he wants to make sure that at least for the next two years he is working hard and getting established in the movie industry first. I'm not going to hunt for a bride, I think he's quite capable of finding the right girl for himself. I'll be there to support him always.

SOM: After becoming MP, you had acted in a movie. Are you accepting new offers?

Sumalatha: I've not acted in any movie after becoming MP. Whichever have been released were the one's I had worked before I became MP (more than two years ago). But, if there's any interesting offer worth my time and doesn't come in the way of my duty as an MP, I will certainly consider it.

SOM: Your plans to make Ambi's name immortal in Mandya?

Sumalatha: I don't think I need to make him immortal as he's already immortal. His name itself is Amarnath. 'Amara' means immortal. His name and memory are etched permanently in the minds of the mass. All I have to do is, uphold that name and continue in that path ■

CM presents Budget

(Continued from page 1)

Kannada language tech: CM Yediyurappa announced the development of a suite of technical tools for Kannada language at an expenditure of Rs. 2 crore to enable use of Kannada in Information Technology.

Meanwhile, digitisation of all works from the times of Adikavi Pampa to Muddanna are to be made available through internet.

The CM also announced the construction of new Anubhava Mantapa at Basavakalyana at a cost of Rs.500 crore; works to start soon. A grant of Rs.5 crore will be provided for the development of the birth place of Jagajyothi Basavanna at Ingaleshwara village in Basavanabagevadi taluk.

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Stamp duty for first registration of apartments costing Rs. 35 lakh to Rs. 45 lakh to be reduced to 3 percent from 5 percent**
- **CM sets target for Stamps and Registration Department to Rs. 12,665 crore**
- **Excise revenue target for 2021-22 fiscal is Rs. 24,580 crore. Target for Transport Department is Rs. 7,515 crore**
- **Two new townships on Bengaluru-Mumbai & Bengaluru-Chennai corridor**
- **Rs. 850 crore budgeted this year for Sub-Urban Rail Project**
- **State to float 'Swiss Challenge' tender to take up Peripheral Ring Road works around Bengaluru**
- **Bengaluru Signature Business Park to come up next to Kempegowda International Airport Limited**
- **Water testing labs in 26 AMRUT (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation) cities at a cost of Rs. 17 crore**
- **Material Recovery Centre of 10-tonne capacity at five City Corporations to dispose of non-biodegradable waste. Project to cost Rs. 11 crore**
- **State to establish Venture Capital Fund of Rs. 100 crore**
- **Karnataka to construct Yathri Nivas at Ayodhya at a cost of Rs. 10 crore; UP Government to provide 10 acres of land for construction of Yathri Nivas**
- **Rs. 3,000 crore fund for reviving lakes and ponds across Karnataka**
- **Rs. 500 crore to be allocated for food start-ups to encourage organic farming; New Food Park to come up in Vijayapura**
- **Increase reservation for farmers' children from 40 to 50 percent in Agriculture University**
- **For small food processing units, Government to increase subsidies to 50 percent; Rs. 50 crore set aside. Horticulture Technology Park at Koppal**
- **One gaushala in each district**
- **To encourage ayurvedic medicine in Veterinary Science, a new research institute at a cost of Rs. 2 crore at Veterinary College, Shivamogga**
- **Rs. 30 crore allocated to set up fish sale units and Matysa Darshinis**
- **APMCs to be computerised at a cost of Rs. 198 crore**
- **Rs. 100 crore to develop 50 Schools under the Kendriya Vidyalaya model.**
- **Rs. 100 crore for providing toilets construction in Schools and Colleges.**
- **Under a new 'Samarthya-Sarathya' programme, Rs. 5 crore allocated for training five lakh students for competitive exams**
- **More ICUs to come up in Hospitals across Karnataka**
- **ICUs of 25-bed and 6-bed capacities will be established in 19 districts and 100 Taluk Hospitals at a cost of Rs. 60 crore in the next two years**
- **Anti-microbial resistance unit for Rs. 1 crore. Laboratories at Rs. 10 crore to detect hereditary metabolic diseases in Bengaluru and Ballari to reduce infant mortality rate**
- **Rs. 2 crore for Tele-ICU facilities. Ayurvedic College in Shivamogga to be upgraded to AYUSH University**
- **Regional cancer centres along the lines of Kidwai Hospital at Mysuru and Shivamogga at a cost of Rs. 100 crore.**
- **75% subsidy for sucking and jetting machines; Rs. 2 crore grant for purpose**
- **Kolhapur Footwear Cluster at Nippani, Belagavi district**
- **Rs. 500 crore grant for Development Corporations of backward communities**
- **Rs. 1,500 crore allocated for welfare of minority communities. Rs. 200 crore for renovation/repair of churches, assistance to orphanages, and others**
- **Rs. 20 crore for infrastructure facilities at Shravanabelagola**
- **Government to set up 25 mobile check-up centres for construction workers**
- **Government to modernise ITIs in the State with collaboration with Tata**
- **Around 150 Government ITIs (Industrial Training Institutes) to be upgraded at a cost of Rs. 4,636 crore to create trained human resources**
- **Various engineering divisions of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj to be merged into one to reduce administrative expenditure**
- **Rs. 1,500 crore grant for Kalyana Karnataka Development Board**

Constitution has many Laws to protect women's rights: District Judge

Mysuru, Mar.8 (RK&DM)- Stating that the Indian Constitution has many laws and sections to protect the rights and dignity of women, Principal District and Sessions Court Judge Ramachandra D. Huddar said that Special Courts have been established across the country to try violence, atrocities, harassment and such other crimes against women.

He was speaking after inaugurating International Women's Day celebration and Poshan Pakhwada Programme organised jointly by the District Administration, Zilla Panchayat, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Mysore Bar Association and Women and Child Development Department at Sthree Shakthi Bhavan near Krishnadevaraya Circle (KD Circle) in Vijayanagar 2nd Stage here this morning.

Regretting that the status of women in some interior and rural parts of the country has not changed much despite over seven decades of independence, Judge Huddar said that women should face challenges in life by using women's laws. Stressing on the need for ending gender discrimination and building of

Judge Ramachandra D. Huddar

an equal society, he said that women have the ability to either light up a house or destroy one.

Pointing out that women should compete with men in all spheres of life, the Judge said that women should strive with dedication and determination to dismantle the notion that the world is a patriarchal society. He further said that Women's Day celebration can garner more strength with the active participation of men.

Karnataka Bar Council Member B.S. Chandramouli, in his address, said that parents must focus on providing education to girl children, rather than getting them married off at a minor age. Pointing out that the current situation is totally different from what it was in the previous century, he said that the country is witnessing a steady rise in the number of working couples.

Stating that dowry harassment cases are coming down of late, Chandramouli said it is gladdening to note that now there are instances of marriage expenses being shared between the parents of brides and bridegrooms. Stressing on the need for women empowerment, he said that women must compete with men in taking up challenges.

M.S. Savithri, senior panel advocate of DLSA, spoke on Women's Rights.

Prize winners: C.R. Kala of K.R.Nagar (first), Pratibha of Hunsur (second) and Shilpa of Periyapatna (third), who topped cooking without fire contest organised by Women and Child Development Department as part of International Women's Day, were distributed prizes on the occasion.

Also, Poshan Pakhwada, the Prime Minister's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment was also part of the programme. The Poshan Abhiyaan, launched by the PM on Mar.8, 2018 marking International Women's Day, aims to eradicate malnutrition in the country in a phased manner through good nutritional practices and behaviours. The goals of Poshan Abhiyaan are to achieve improvement in the nutritional status of children from 0 to 6 years, adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers in a time- bound manner.

Senior Civil Judge and DLSA Member-Secretary Devaraj Bhoote, Additional District and Sessions Judge Saraswathi Vishnu Kosandar, ZP CEO A.M. Yogesh, Women and Child Development Deputy Director K. Padma, District Presenting Officer Geethalakshmi and others were present.

COVID vaccination: Technical glitch delays OTP

A senior citizen being administered COVID vaccine at Gopalagowda Shanthaveri Memorial Hospital in Nazarbad this morning.

(Continued from page 1)

As more vaccination sites began administering COVID vaccination today, the high traffic to the new CoWIN 2.0 portal caused technical glitch (server down), which delayed getting the One Time Password (OTP) at Private Hospitals in city.

Dr. P. Ravi, District Family Welfare Officer and Karnataka Private Medical Establishment Nodal Officer, speaking to *Star of Mysore* said that due to high traffic on the portal, server was down till 11.30 am and the same has been rectified. "This issue was not only in city but across the country. There is no problem now and the registration process at private hospitals is going on smoothly. There is adequate stock of vaccines and private hospitals have been asked to collect them at nearby Primary Health Centres," he added.

PM Modi greets women on International Women's Day

New Delhi, Mar. 8 (UNI)- Prime Minister Narendra Modi greeted women on the occasion of International Women's Day today and said India takes pride in their many accomplishments.

"Saluting our indomitable #NariShakti on International Women's Day! India takes pride in the many accomplishments of the women of our nation. It is our Government's honour to be getting the opportunity to work towards furthering women empowerment across a wide range of sectors," PM Modi tweeted.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that my client has entered into an agreement of sale with the owner of schedule property, Smt. Laxmi P. Gowda, W/o Sri Puttaraju.P., aged about 55 years, residing at "Jagruthy", No.2413, Vijayanagar 2nd Stage, Mysuru - 570 016. Any person/s having any claim/s, whatsoever, in respect of the schedule property, is/are required to intimate the same to the undersigned with documentary proof, within 7 days of publication of this notice, failing which my client shall complete the sale considering that no claim/s exist in respect of schedule property. Any claim/s raised after 7 days will be deemed to have been waived of and/or abandoned.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of property bearing Site No. 1142/B, 3rd Stage, Gokulam, Mysuru and having basement, ground and two floors (the site measuring East West - 15 meters and North South - 12 meters) bounded by
East : Road
West : Site No.822a, 2823
North : Road
South: Private Property

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Advocates
 # 523, 3rd Cross, 15th Main, Saraswathipuram, Mysore-09

Date : 08.03.2021, Place : Mysuru

IPL 2021 full schedule announced

Mumbai Indians to begin title defence against Royal Challengers Bangalore

New Delhi, Mar. 8- The Indian Premier League (IPL) 2021 schedule was released yesterday. Defending champions Mumbai Indians (MI) will face Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) in the opening encounter in Chennai on Apr. 9.

The eight-team tournament will be played across six cities — Mumbai, Delhi, Bengaluru, Chennai, Kolkata and Ahmedabad. The final of the 14th edition of the IPL will be played at the world's largest cricket stadium, Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on May 30.

While fans returned during India's Test series against England, the initial phase of the IPL will be played without spectators and a call on allowing crowds in the tournament will be taken at a later stage.

There will be 11 double headers in this year's IPL, with the afternoon game starting at 3.30 pm (IST) and all the evening games are scheduled to begin at 7.30 pm (IST). Also, all the play-offs and final will be played in Ahmedabad.

DATE	MATCH	VENUE
April 9	Mumbai Indians **Vs** Royal Challengers Bangalore	Chennai
April 10	Chennai Super Kings **Vs** Delhi Capitals	Mumbai
April 11	SunRisers Hyderabad **Vs** Kolkata Knight Riders	Chennai
April 12	Rajasthan Royals **Vs** Punjab Kings	Mumbai
April 13	Kolkata Knight Riders **Vs** Mumbai Indians	Chennai
April 14	SunRisers Hyderabad **Vs** Royal Challengers Bangalore	Chennai
April 15	Rajasthan Royals **Vs** Delhi Capitals	Mumbai
April 16	Punjab Kings **Vs** Chennai Super Kings	Mumbai
April 17	Mumbai Indians **Vs** SunRisers Hyderabad	Chennai
April 18	Royal Challengers Bangalore **Vs** Kolkata Knight Riders	Chennai
	Delhi Capitals **Vs** Punjab Kings	Mumbai
April 19	Chennai Super Kings **Vs** Rajasthan Royals	Mumbai
April 20	Delhi Capitals **Vs** Mumbai Indians	Chennai
April 21	Kolkata Knight Riders **Vs** Chennai Super Kings	Chennai
April 22	Royal Challengers Bangalore **Vs** Rajasthan Royals	Mumbai
April 23	Punjab Kings **Vs** Mumbai Indians	Chennai
April 24	Rajasthan Royals **Vs** Kolkata Knight Riders	Mumbai
April 25	Chennai Super Kings **Vs** Royal Challengers Bangalore	Mumbai
	SunRisers Hyderabad **Vs** Delhi Capitals	Chennai
April 26	Punjab Kings **Vs** Kolkata Knight Riders	Ahmedabad
April 27	Delhi Capitals **Vs** Royal Challengers Bangalore	Ahmedabad
April 28	Chennai Super Kings **Vs** SunRisers Hyderabad	Delhi
April 29	Mumbai Indians **Vs** Rajasthan Royals	Delhi
	Delhi Capitals **Vs** Kolkata Knight Riders	Ahmedabad
April 30	Punjab Kings **Vs** Royal Challengers Bangalore	Ahmedabad
May 1	Mumbai Indians **Vs** Chennai Super Kings	Delhi
May 2	Rajasthan Royals **Vs** SunRisers Hyderabad	Delhi
	Punjab Kings **Vs** Delhi Capitals	Ahmedabad
May 3	Kolkata Knight Riders **Vs** Royal Challengers Bangalore	Ahmedabad
May 4	SunRisers Hyderabad **Vs** Mumbai Indians	Delhi
May 5	Rajasthan Royals **Vs** Chennai Super Kings	Delhi
May 6	Royal Challengers Bangalore **Vs** Punjab Kings	Ahmedabad
May 7	SunRisers Hyderabad **Vs** Chennai Super Kings	Delhi
May 8	Kolkata Knight Riders **Vs** Delhi Capitals	Ahmedabad
	Rajasthan Royals **Vs** Mumbai Indians	Delhi
May 9	Chennai Super Kings **Vs** Punjab Kings	Bengaluru
	Royal Challengers Bangalore **Vs** SunRisers Hyderabad	Kolkata
May 10	Mumbai Indians **Vs** Kolkata Knight Riders	Bengaluru
May 11	Delhi Capitals **Vs** Rajasthan Royals	Kolkata
May 12	Chennai Super Kings **Vs** Kolkata Knight Riders	Bengaluru
May 13	Mumbai Indians **Vs** Punjab Kings	Bengaluru
	SunRisers Hyderabad **Vs** Rajasthan Royals	Kolkata
May 14	Royal Challengers Bangalore **Vs** Delhi Capitals	Kolkata
May 15	Kolkata Knight Riders **Vs** Punjab Kings	Bengaluru
May 16	Rajasthan Royals **Vs** Royal Challengers Bangalore	Kolkata
	Chennai Super Kings **Vs** Mumbai Indians	Bengaluru
May 17	Delhi Capitals **Vs** SunRisers Hyderabad	Kolkata
May 18	Kolkata Knight Riders **Vs** Rajasthan Royals	Bengaluru
May 19	SunRisers Hyderabad **Vs** Punjab Kings	Bengaluru
May 20	Royal Challengers Bangalore **Vs** Mumbai Indians	Kolkata
May 21	Kolkata Knight Riders **Vs** SunRisers Hyderabad	Bengaluru
	Delhi Capitals **Vs** Chennai Super Kings	Kolkata
May 22	Punjab Kings **Vs** Rajasthan Royals	Bengaluru
May 23	Mumbai Indians **Vs** Delhi Capitals	Kolkata
	Royal Challengers Bangalore **Vs** Chennai Super Kings	Kolkata
May 25	Qualifier 1	Ahmedabad
May 26	Eliminator	Ahmedabad
May 28	Qualifier 2	Ahmedabad
May 30	**Final**	Ahmedabad

[NOTE: All the evening matches will start at 7.30 pm (IST), while on a double header day, the first match will begin at 3.30 pm (IST).

Women's Cricket - 1st ODI

South Africa cruise past India, win by 8 wickets

Lucknow, Mar. 8- Lizelle Lee and Laura Wolvaardt shared the highest opening wicket stand against an under-prepared India to give South Africa an emphatic 8-wicket win in the first ODI of the five-match series, yesterday.

Asked to bat, India never got the momentum it needed and could only manage 177 for nine despite a fifty from skipper Mithali Raj (50 off 85) and a quick-fire 40 off 41 balls from her deputy Harmanpreet Kaur. Lee (83 not out off 122). Wolvaardt (80 off 110) helped South Africa chase down the target in 40.1 overs with a record 169-run stand.

India would quickly like to forget their first outing in 12 months and come back much stronger in the next game against a side that has come into the series with substantial game time.

The South African opening duo did not look in any sort of trouble against the Indian pacers as well as their highly-rated spinners. Lee smashed 11 fours and a six while Wolvaardt collected 12 boundaries.

Veteran India pacer Jhulan Goswami (2/38), playing her first game since November 2019, was the most impressive in an otherwise disappointing bowling effort. Debutant pacer Monica Patel got only 4 overs in which she conceded 20 runs. The spin-bowling trio of Rajeshwari Gaekwaid, Deepti Sharma and Poonam Yadav failed to provide any breakthroughs that were needed to keep India in the game.

Earlier, the 62-run stand between Raj and Kaur steadied the innings after India lost their first three wickets for 40 runs, including star opener Smriti Mandhana (14 off 20).

Harmanpreet, playing her 100th ODI, smashed six boundaries in her entertaining knock. Raj, who took some time to get going in her first game since November 2019, then shared a 52-run partnership with Deepti Sharma (27 off 46) to keep the innings moving. But her dismissal off a full-toss triggered a collapse that saw India reeling at 160 for eight from 154 for four. The skipper's innings comprised four boundaries and a six.

Senior South Africa pacer Shabnim Ismail was the pick of the bowlers, taking three wickets for 28 runs in 10 overs. Indian players did not get to play in the last 12 months due to the COVID-19 pandemic while South Africa recently beat Pakistan 3-0 at home.

Next match will be played tomorrow (Mar. 9) starting at 9 am (IST). Catch live actions on Star Sports 2 (and HD) and Star Sports 3 (and HD).

Selected for Natl. Sports Meet

Mysuru, Mar. 8- S. Abhay has bagged first place in 400 meters and 200 meters running race at 31st State-level Para Athletic Championship-2021, which was held recently at Chamundi Vihar Stadium in city and has been selected for National-level Sports Meet to be held in Chennai on Mar. 23, according to a press release.

NOW SHOWING - MOVIES

- **Woodlands Theatre** **Ph: 2422871**
  Hero (K) - *4 shows*
- **Balaji Theatre** **Ph: 2497199**
  Pogaru (K) - 4 Shows
- **Padma Theatre** **Ph: 2521923**
  Pogaru (K) - *4 shows*
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** **Mob: 9986022634**
  Pogaru (K) - 4 Shows
- **Uma Theatre** **Ph: 2520009**
  Scary Forest (K) - 4 Shows

DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Raya & The Last Dragon (E-3D)	(S-1)	10.50 am, 1 pm, 3.15 pm, 5.25 pm, 7.40 pm
A1 Express (Te)	(S-1)	9.55 pm
	(S-4)	4.25 pm
Devineni (Te)	(S-2)	11.05 am
Anbirkiniyal (Ta)	(S-2)	1.40 pm
Inspector Vikram (K)	(S-2)	4.05 pm
Pogaru (K)	(S-2)	7.00 pm
	(S-3)	1.10 pm, 4.10, 9.55 pm
Vellam The Essential Drink (Ma)	(S-2)	9.55 pm
MBA (K)	(S-3)	10.45 am
Gamjaal (Tulu)	(S-3)	7.10 pm
Yuvam (Ma)	(S-4)	11.10 am
Hero (K)	(S-4)	1.45 pm, 7.20 pm 9.55 pm

INOX LIVE THE MOVIE — Ph: 2533444 / 2533456

Chaos Walking (E)	(S-3)	10.00 am, 3.45 pm
	(S-4)	9.40 pm
A1 Express (Te)	(S-3)	9.30 pm
Nenjam Marapathillai (Ta)	(S-3)	9.00 pm
Hero (K)	(S-1)	9.55 pm
	(S-3)	12.45 pm, 6.30 pm
	(S-4)	3.00 pm
Pogaru (K)	(S-2)	10.40 am, 2 pm, 5.30 pm
	(S-1)	6.30 pm
Inspector Vikram (K)	(S-1)	12.10 pm; (S-4) 6 pm
Tom and Jerry (E)	(S-1)	3.40 pm
Raktha Gulabi (K)	(S-4)	12.00 noon

MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Hero (K)	(S-1)	10.30 am, 1.15 pm, 4.15 pm
	(S-2)	7.30 pm
Raktha Gulabi (K)	(S-2)	2.00 pm
Dheeram (K)	(S-2)	4.45 pm
Inspector Vikram (K)	(S-1)	7.00 pm
	(S-4)	11.00 am
Pogaru (K)	(S-2)	10.45 am
	(S-4)	2.15 pm, 5.30 pm, 8.45 pm
Raya & The Last Dragon (E-3D)	(S-3)	11.15 am, 4.00 pm, 6.30 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there are no minimum audience of 15 to the film announced here. **The other multiplexes and single screen theatres are yet to open.**

City MMA fighters excel at Nationals

Six MMA fighters of the Academy of Martial Science (AMS) participated in the MMA National Championship at Lucknow, UP, between Feb. 18 and 21 and won 4 medals (two silver and two bronze). Seen in the picture are *(from left)* ***Akshatha Shanbhogue (Bronze Medal in Atom Weight Category), K. Kavyashree (Bronze in Straw Weight), N. Maithri (Silver in Fly Weight), MMAINDIA General Secretary Prasad Gaitonde, MMA India President Sharif Bapu, AMS Founder-Director and MMA India Tech. Commission Chairman Kru Vikram, MMA India Vice-President Vikas Sharma and S. Adarsh (Silver in Light Heavy Weight). Over 300 participants from 25-plus States took part in the event that was sanctioned by MMA India which is the sole governing body for the combat sport of MMA in India.***

Excel in fitness challenge

Students of Prajwal Karate Dojo (PKD) took part in MultiFit Mysore Circuit Challenge organised at MultiFit Gym in Jayalakshmipuram recently and bagged medals in various age divisions. Seen in the picture are *(standing from left)* ***Swathi Prajwal (Silver Medal in Female 18+ years category), Sensei Prajwal, Anvesha Arya (Bronze in Girls 5-10 years) and C.K. Yudhi (Gold in Girls 11-16 years). Each age division had different kinds of exercises in the Circuit that included weighted squats, rowing, box jumps, skipping, sled pushing and more; Whoever finished the circuit with least time was awarded medal.***

EVENTS TODAY (MAR. 8)

- **Shagun's Weavers Works:** Exhibition-cum-Sale of silk products from across the country, Nanjaraj Bahadur Choultry, Vinoba Road, **up to 8.30 pm.**
- **Sahara Arts and Crafts Shopping Festival:** Handicraft and Handloom Expo-cum-Sale, JSS Ground, next to Doddakere Maidan, opp. Dasara Exhibition Grounds, **up to 9.30 pm.**
- **Maharaja's High School Alumni Association:** Meeting of the old students, Sri Nalwadi Krishnaraja Mantapa, School premises, **5 pm.**
- **Institution of Engineers-India (IEI), Mysuru Local Centre:** Technical Lecture on 'Opportunities in Professional Development' by Dr. Bindu Thomas, Professor and Head, Electronics and Telecommunications Engineering Department, Vidya Vikas Engineering College, Mysuru; Dr. R. Suresh, Chairman, IEI Mysuru, presides, D.K. Dinesh Kumar, Hon. Secretary, IEI Mysuru, will be present, S.P. Bhat Hall, IEI Mysuru, JLB Road, **6 pm.**
- **PG Women's Hostel, University of Mysore (UoM):** International Women's Day celebrations, special lecture on 'Women: Opportunities and Challenges' by Dr. D. Vijayalakshmi, Professor and Head, Kannada Department, Maharaja's College, UoM; Dr. B.N. Yashodha, Principal, Yuvaraja's College, Mysuru, inaugurates the event, Dr. S.T. Ramachandra, Director, Directorate of Students Welfare, UoM, presides, Students Hostel - Block-3, Manasagangothri, **6.30 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (MAR. 9)

- **Shagun's Weavers Works:** Exhibition-cum-Sale of silk products from across the country, Nanjaraj Bahadur Choultry, Vinoba Road, **10.30 am to 8.30 pm.**
- **Sahara Arts and Crafts Shopping Festival:** Handicraft and Handloom Expo-cum-Sale, JSS Ground, next to Doddakere Maidan, opp. Dasara Exhibition Grounds, **10.30 am to 9.30 pm.**
- **District Sharana Sahitya Parishat, Mysuru and District Jagatika Lingayata Mahasabha, Mysuru:** Book release — senior artist and writer L. Shivalingappa's 'Vachanantaranga Chitraranga' — by former Rangayana Mysuru Director H. Janardhan, Sri Chidananda Swamiji of Sri Hosmutt graces the occasion, writer and retd. Principal Maleyur Guruswamy speaks about the book, Sharana Sahitya Parishat Mysuru City Unit President M.G. Sadanandaiah presides, District Sharana Sahitya Parishat-Mysuru President M. Chandrashekar delivers keynote address, Nataraja Women's PU College Principal Usharani will be present, Nataraja auditorium, Shankar Mutt, Shankar Mutt Road, **11 am.**

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SEMI-FINALS
(Leg 2 of 2)

Today's Match (March 8)

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Tomorrow's Match (March 9)

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